

**Tri County JSEC Meeting Minutes**  
**Thursday, January 29, 2009**

**Present:** Maureen Connors, Richard Montz, Jim Davison, Jackie Bonney, Cal Boyle, and Shirley Cortright.

**Introductions:** Introduced Maureen Connors new member from Philipsburg. She is a County Commissioner.

Discussed Economy and UI rates and how that's affecting us and our communities. Maureen expressed the concern that it's going to continue to get worse and how it will affect the area. Shirley explained the benefits of using Job Service and the fact that we can attach a register to those applicants specific to your place of business, when you are recruiting we can search for those individuals and notify them of your job opening. Cal explained the benefits of using Job Service to list your job openings.

**Minutes:** Approved – there were no changes.

**Treasurer Report:** Current balance \$1365.45

**Innovation in Business Conference:** Cal updated us on the conference. Conference scheduled for May 18<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> in Helena at the Red Lion Colonial Inn. Topics that will be covered were discussed. We need items for the Silent Auction, normally a donated item that represents your community. Discussed the history of the conference and how things have worked in the past. Shirley will forward the updated information on the scholarship and conference to everyone. The Scholarship deadline has been extended to February 28, 2009.

**TAA Information:** TAA Petition was approved and allows us to provide assistance to the Sun Mountain Lumber laid off employees as well as businesses within our communities via the on the job training and money going back into our communities. We discussed the possibility of ways JSEC could get the information out to the businesses regarding the TAA Program and various other programs that are being looked at that the businesses might be able to take a look at. It was explained that the individuals on the program should be discussing this with businesses they talk to.

**ABC Clinic Update:** We explained what the ABC Clinic is and the fact that we requested hosting one in our Tri-County area. Our request was denied due to the cost/expenses of traveling to these clinics, the State is looking at ways to cut back, not add to.

**Service Tracking:** Shirley explained the new Service Tracking and the benefits of having the new system to better document what services we are providing to all of our customers. The information can be utilized during the legislature to explain services we provide to business customers, individuals and in economic areas within our communities.

**Career Fair Update:** Discussed the 2009 Career Fair/Summit and how well things went. Will need to do the business/booth visits differently next year but all in all things went really well. Had approximately 550 students from the area in attendance and hoping to expand on things for next year.

**Business Updates/Needs:** **School District** – looking at staffing needs and significant declining enrollment – looking at ways to cut. **ALDC** – Jim Davison indicated he is seeing variety of needs in our community. Talked with local banks and they have cash to invest and are looking for projects to invest in. Horizon Project is offering computer/Bookkeeping class, the advertisement was in the Leader last night. CCCS has 14 million dollar project, SWANK has the contract but will still need some local people. Power Company project still has to be done this summer – need the sewer line. **Hearthstone** – looking at fiscal year 2009 budget and need to look at cut backs – facing a 14,000 per month power bill just as an example. Going to an online payroll system and facing the issue of trying to educate their employees on how to use the computer and ways they could train

their staff. **Granite County** – Maureen expressed the need in their community for CNA's to be trained and where we are at with the possibility of the Job Corp providing or offering this program. Concern for retail businesses because of the economy and tourism. The road for the back side of Discovery Ski has been put on hold. Concerned about the wood product industry because of the connections that their community has with the logging industry. Have a lot of seasonal and part time employment in their community. Facing issue of sewer system keeping them from economic growth – can't add any new sewers to County system. DNRC grant and federal grant have a plan for sewer but won't solve water issue, looking at water meters.

**Next meeting will be Thursday, February 19<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 am at the Anaconda Job Service Office.**